



8/18/03
Priority, Docket No.: 11460-111
Appl. Ser. No.: 09/905,536
Response to Office Action dtd. 31 March 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jerald P. DYKSTRA
Serial No: 09/905,536
Filed: July 13, 2001
For: GAS CLUSTER ION BEAM SIZE DIAGNOSTICS AND WORKPIECE
PROCESSING

Examiner: Lam S. NGUYEN
Art Unit: 2853
Confirmation: 3492

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RESPONSE A TO OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

This response is being provided in response to the non-final Office Action dated 31 March 2003 for the above-captioned U.S. patent application.

A petition for a one-month extension and a check in the amount of \$55.00 covering the associated fee for a small entity as required by 37 CFR §1.17(a)(2) are enclosed with this paper. In the event any additional fees are required for consideration of this paper (including fees for net addition of claims) they are authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-2410, order 11460-111. Any credit to Applicant should be applied similarly to that Deposit Account. A declaration submitted pursuant to 37 CFR §132, and an Information Disclosure Statement also accompany this response.

Claims 1-34 are currently pending in the application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting the allowance of claims 11-20, 24-26 and 31-34 and noting the allowability of claims 4, 6-10, 22-23 and 28-29.

Claims 1-3, 5, 21, 27 and 30 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dykstra¹ in view of Bakker². Through the Remarks that follow and the Declaration submitted herewith, the objections and rejections to the claims noted above are addressed.

¹ U.S. Patent No. 6,331,227, issued 18 December 2001 to Dykstra, *et al.*

² U.S. Patent No. 3,634,683 issued 11 January 1972 to Bakker, *et al.*